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Department of Economic Development

Retaining Business Partners, Saving Missouri Jobs

Holden announces new partnership and incentive package to save Ford plant

Speaking at a press conference at the Hazelwood Community Center in September, Governor Bob Holden praised the cooperative efforts that led to a new partnership between the State of Missouri, the City of Hazelwood and St. Louis County to provide the necessary incentives to allow the Ford Motor Company to continue operation of the Ford Hazelwood Plant through 2007.

In announcing details of the partnership, Holden said, "the agreement we are announcing today gives us hope for the future. Given the current economic conditions and without this new contract between the UAW and Ford and the incentive package offered by state and local governments, I am convinced we would have seen a complete closing of this facility by the end of next year.

"I am pleased that our efforts to this point have been successful in retaining this important operation and that jobs will be saved. And as the economy improves and new product lines can be pursued for the plant, we believe Hazelwood will continue to be a part of Ford's future and Missouri's future for many years to come."

Holden said the state's share of the incentive package, which includes approximately \$5 million in job training assistance and \$4 million of other tax credits, was negotiated over a two day period in St. Louis following the successful negotiations between the United Auto Workers and Ford Motor Company on a tentative contract.

The City of Hazelwood and St. Louis County are also providing tax abatements to help with financing upgrades at the plant.

But Holden stressed the most important negotiating tool they had to of-

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Holden announces fight to save KC overhaul base a success

In October, Gov. Bob Holden joined local leaders and company officials at a press conference in which American Airlines announced its decision to keep its maintenance overhaul base in Kansas City open.

"In our fight for Missouri jobs, we are here to announce another victory," Holden said. "We must continue to work together because fighting for jobs is the fight we must win for the economic future of our families, businesses and communities.

"Over the past six months we have been fighting to protect these high-skill jobs and to keep this facility open in Kansas City. American's decision to keep the base open is a positive reflection on the quality of Missouri's workforce, the cooperative efforts of city and state officials working together, and our strong business climate."

American Airlines had indicated it would likely close its maintenance facility

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Saving Ford Plant *continued*

fer Ford was the productivity of workers at the Hazelwood facility.

"We had no greater resource to offer the company than our world class workers. Workers have been doing their part and I wanted to make certain we were doing all we could to back them up," Holden said. "Without the quality of this workforce, we would not have been able to save this plant."

Holden was joined at the press conference by: Jim Padilla, Ford Motor Co. executive vice president, and president, North and South American Operations; Ken Dearing, president UAW Local 325; St. Louis County Executive Buzz Westfall; Hazelwood Mayor T.R. Carr; Ford Hazelwood Task Force Chair Chuck Mueller; Senate President Pro Tem Peter Kinder, and House Speaker Catherine Hanaway.

"By working together in a bi-partisan fashion and as a community we have taken the right steps to continue a productive relationship with Ford well into the future," the Governor said.

Holden also credited the leadership of the Ford Hazelwood Task Force he appointed last year and headed by Chuck Mueller, chairman and CEO of Ameren, as well as the General Assembly for their work to support efforts to keep the plant open.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT

Missouri's labor market conditions continued to improve in September. Both the state's seasonally adjusted and not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates edged down, while employment increased again.

Missouri's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a point to 5.4 percent; the rate has been receding since the peak of 5.7 percent reached in June. There were fewer Missourians unemployed this September (162,200) than there were a year ago (164,800).

The nation's labor market conditions remained relatively unchanged in September. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 6.1 percent and total non-farm payroll increased slightly by 57,000 jobs in September.

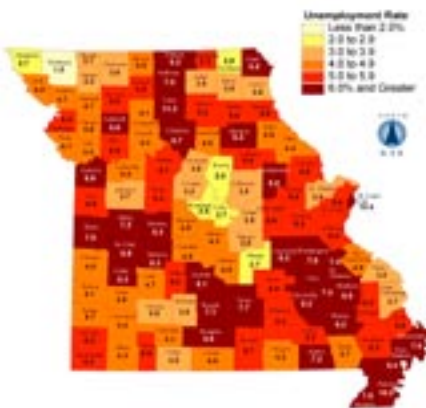
On a not-seasonally-adjusted basis, Missouri's unemployment rate decreased by nearly a half of a percent in September to 5.3 percent, down from 5.8 percent in August. The September rate is a half point below the national rate.

Payroll employment in Missouri increased by 18,300 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis in September. Resumption of employment at public schools and colleges, with the opening of the fall semester, helped push employment upward.

This is the fifth month in 2003 that employment has increased over the previous month's employment. Current employment of 2,661,800 is 18,500 jobs higher than in January, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Total employment of individuals in Missouri is about the same as it was in September 2002.

In other sectors, employment change was mixed. Trade, transportation and utilities employment was up by 1,500 jobs over the month, while financial activities added 1,400 jobs on balance. Private educational and health services employment was up by 900.

Construction, professional and business services, "other" services, and leisure and hospitality reported lower employment than in August. Manufacturing employment was little changed over the month.



CALENDAR

November 11 Veterans Day
State Offices Closed

November 27-28 Thanksgiving Holiday
State Offices Closed

December 25-26 Christmas Holiday
State Offices Closed

January 1 New Years Day
State Offices Closed

January 7 Second Regular Session of the 92nd General Assembly Convenes

January 12 Central Missouri Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City

Workforce Investment Board receives federal grant to fund high-tech training

The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Western Missouri in Sedalia has received a federal grant to train workers for high-technology jobs. The board is one of only five workforce boards around the country to receive the grant.

The workforce board, which is administered by the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Division of Workforce Development, was awarded a \$2.8 million grant. The H-1B Technical Skills Training Grant is bestowed by the U.S. Department of Labor. The grants are intended to assist organizations with domestic labor shortages in high-skills and high-tech occupations.

The grant will be used to fund training for mental health providers, mainly in rural Missouri. The funds will serve much of south-central, west-central and central portions of the state. As part of the grant requirement, the WIB was required to contribute a matching portion.

The application was made as a collaborative effort among the Workforce Investment Board, the University of Missouri System, Royal Oaks Hospitals, Forest Institute of Professional Psychology and numerous other mental health providers, practitioners, and business partners in western rural Missouri. By applying for and receiving the grant, the organizations sought to alleviate the shortage of mental health professionals, lack of access to timely care, and long waiting periods for Missourians seeking mental health

Missouri communities recognized for betterment efforts at annual conference

Governor Bob Holden honored a number of communities and leaders for their accomplishments in improving quality of life at the 2003 Missouri Community Betterment (MCB) Awards on October 27 in Columbia. The city of Canton in Lewis County won the grand prize award for their outstanding involvement with community betterment projects. Cabool's young adults took home the Glenn Smith Youth Award, which represents the highest honor for a youth group.

The awards banquet was the highlight of the 40th Annual Missouri Community Betterment Conference. Over 600 volunteers, community leaders and youth from across the state attended the conference, gathering information and ideas for revitalization efforts.

The annual awards banquet is an integral part of the MCB program, which is administered by Missouri Community Betterment Educational Fund. More than 70 communities entered the awards competition and were judged in particular population categories. Awards for youth programs, and adult and youth leadership were also presented. In addition, the cities of Bowling Green, Houston and Seneca were named as a Star City and the cities of Bolivar, Cameron, Eldon, Louisiana, Maryville and Pleasant Hill earned All Missouri Certified City status.

Five communities were recognized for having participated in the MCB program for all 40 years: Albany, Cabool, Clarksville, Lamar and Perryville.



Cabool youth capture Glenn Smith Youth Award honors.



Governor Holden presents the MCB grand prize to the city of Canton.

Holden Announces Fight to Save Overhaul Base *continued*

after a lease with the City of Kansas City expired at the end of the year. However, state and local officials worked together to develop a tentative agreement with American to retain most jobs at the base through 2005 and keep the facility open beyond that date.

The State of Missouri will provide Brownfield Remediation Tax Credits and the Department of Economic Development will work with the Missouri Development Finance Board to request their assistance to help Kansas City with its financing.

Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes, David Campbell, American vice president for base maintenance, Gordon Clark, president of Transportation Workers Union Local 530, and other city, airline and union officials, joined Gov. Holden at a press conference in October at the maintenance base at Kansas City International Airport.

Holden announces grant for work program

Governor Bob Holden announced the award of a \$240,000 grant by the Missouri Division of Workforce Development to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Southeast Missouri. The WIB will use the funds to partner with the Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center to fund a program aimed at helping Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) recipients in southeast Missouri to overcome barriers to employment.

Holden announced the award as he addressed more than 200 people at the Lincoln University Youth Development/Kids' Beat Program on October 26, an annual event sponsored by Lincoln University Cooperative Research and Extension that provides educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for thousands of low-income youth in southeast Missouri.

The project -- known as Work Prep, Work to Learn and Working Forever -- will provide services to help 40 - 50 TANF recipients in Mississippi and New Madrid Counties gain critical work skills and overcome barriers baring them from obtaining and keeping gainful employment.

The project proposes to provide a job development curriculum and activities for at least 30 hours per week. Participants will be required to complete an instructional technology course to acquire computer skills, begin work and attend a weekly new employee development support meeting for six months, and strive to attain a GED even after becoming employed. Participants will also be required to maintain satisfactory ratings of performance and agree to random drug testing.



2003 Workforce Development Conference Highlights

Gov. Bob Holden presented the Special Achievement of Excellence Awards at the 21st Annual Governor's Conference on Workforce Development on October 9 at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach.

The awards recognize outstanding partnerships in Missouri's workforce development system. Each of Missouri's regions was invited to nominate individuals and programs from their local area for these awards.

In addition to recognizing five organizations with Achievement Awards, Gov. Holden also presented a new award this year, the Performance Excellence Award, to Missouri's Workforce Investment Regions that met performance standards set by the Workforce Investment Act. There are a total of 15 measures that local workforce regions strive to achieve.

Four local workforce investment regions met the criteria for Program Year 2001: Northwest Region, Southeast Region, St. Louis County Region and the South Central Region. Each of the four will receive \$70,000 in federal Workforce Investment Act funds in recognition of their accomplishment. The funds will be used in each region to enhance and expand employment services offered at the Missouri Career Centers.

On October 8, fourteen individuals from across the state received "alumni awards" at the conference. The award winners were honored for their efforts in completing job training and finding gainful employment. An alumnus from each of the state's 14 workforce development regions was recognized.

The awards were presented by Department of Economic Development Director Joseph L. Driskill, Division of Workforce Development Director Rick Beasley and Patti Penny, chair of the Missouri Training and Employment Council.



Achievement of Excellence Award Recipients

Leadership

Workforce Development Board of Western Missouri
in Sedalia

Innovation

Northwest Regional Council of Governments
in Maryville

Collaboration/Integration of Services

Full Employment Council, Youth Opportunities
Program in Kansas City

Private Sector Participation

St. John's Health System in Springfield

Customer Focus and Satisfaction

Green Hills Regional Planning Commission in Trenton

2002 Alumni Award Winners

Marvenia Harris - Boonville

Richard Renner - Independence

Karen Norman - Washington

DeAngela Kennar - Kansas City

Kelli Dennis - Montgomery City

Melissa Graves-Peters - Browning

Emily Kakolewski - Ozark

Tara Hale - Ellington

Phillip Jackson - Caruthersville

Lee Ann Binnion-Connell - Joplin

Jessica McGregor - Maryland Heights

Emebet Trife - St. Louis

Jehiwu Tokpa - St. Louis

Lowell Hughes - Nevada

Alumnus of the Year: Emily Kakolewski

State continues to aid storm ravaged communities

Governor Bob Holden recently announced the release of an additional \$4.5 million from the Department of Economic Development's Disaster Recovery Fund. These resources will help several cities and counties fund projects primarily focused on restoring public infrastructure and housing and assisting with other unmet needs that resulted from a series of tornadoes and severe storms last May.

The following funds were approved through the department's Community Development Block Grant Program:

- **CEDAR COUNTY** -- A \$415,500 grant will offset costs to construct a facility that will house the Cedar County Hospital Medical Clinic. A \$400,000 grant will assist in the completion of the Stockton Senior Center.
- **STOCKTON** -- A \$150,000 grant will be used to assist with down payment assistance, rehabilitation, materials purchase or other unmet housing needs for persons without a permanent housing solution. A \$400,000 grant will be used to help establish a revolving loan fund for small businesses that need additional financing for recovery. A \$300,000 grant will assist with the construction necessary infrastructure in the Town Center. Another \$350,000 grant will be used to help finance a combination library and community center.
- **PIERCE CITY** -- A \$137,600 grant will assist in the improvement of sites for the city hall and fire station and a site adjacent to the Armory. A \$192,550 grant will be used to offset costs to improve the city's water system, while a \$157,440 grant will assist with repairs to the city's sewer system. An additional \$38,000 grant will help remove storm debris from Clear and Larkin Creeks.
- **JEFFERSON COUNTY** -- A grant for \$18,396 will be used to offset disaster recovery costs incurred by the DeSoto Rural Fire District. A \$2,212 grant will offset disaster recovery costs incurred by the Valle Ambulance District. A \$250,000 state grant will be used to establish a revolving loan fund for businesses that need access to additional financing for recovery.
- **BATTLEFIELD** -- A \$424,270 grant will offset costs involved in the construction of a new city hall facility. Another \$82,600 grant will provide resources to acquire sites for new single-family housing development for individuals or families whose homes were either damaged or destroyed in the May 2003 storms.
- **CANTON** -- A \$311,450 grant will help replace damaged sidewalks and to resurface damaged streets.
- **CARL JUNCTION** -- A \$597,000 grant will be used to assist in repairs to public infrastructure and municipal buildings and for the acquisition of property for a new combined municipal court and police facility.
- **JACKSON** -- A \$200,000 grant will be used to establish a revolving loan fund for businesses that need additional financial resources to aid their recovery.
- **LAWRENCE COUNTY** -- A \$31,450 grant will help offset costs to staff the Lawrence County Long Term Recovery Committee.

In October, the Missouri Department of Economic Development released \$2 million from its Disaster Recovery Fund to help four counties remove debris left by a series of tornadoes last May.

- **CEDAR COUNTY** received \$718,458 to assist with debris removal in unincorporated areas of the county and within the City of Stockton.
- **JASPER COUNTY** received \$892,905. In addition to the debris removal, the funds will help pay the salaries of two case manager supervisors who will be hired to lead efforts. Currently, there are still nearly 40 destroyed buildings that remain standing.
- **LAWRENCE COUNTY** received \$239,200 to help remove debris still remaining after FEMA cleanup was completed on private property, primarily located along state highways and along fence lines in an unincorporated area of the county.
- **LEWIS COUNTY** received \$152,600, which will be used to remove the debris from 40 destroyed buildings still standing within the county and the City of Canton. The funds will cover the costs of demolition, which could not be taken care of by property owners or with available federal disaster assistance or private insurance.

To date, the Department of Economic Development has issued more than \$7.5 million in Disaster Recovery Funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Funding was allocated from existing DED programs to create the Disaster Recovery Fund. Those programs included the Missouri Housing Development Commission, the Neighborhood Assistance Program, Neighborhood Preservation Program, the Community Development Block Grant Program, and from the use of National Emergency Grant funds administered by DED's Division of Workforce Development.

Ford announces it will build hybrid Escape in Kansas City

Gov. Bob Holden said that the October 30 announcement by Ford Motor Company to build a hybrid version of the Ford Escape at its Kansas City Assembly Plant at Claycomo is a reflection on Missouri's business climate and the quality of its workforce. The Escape will be the auto industry's first SUV that operates on both gasoline and electric power; production will begin next summer.

Holden, who has been talking with Ford for several months about bringing the new line to Claycomo, said that Ford's decision to produce a hybrid model -- the next generation of automobiles -- here in Missouri will help retain jobs and ensure a continued long-term partnership with the company.

State and local officials have been working with Ford officials in Michigan on a package of incentives, including job training assistance to help prepare workers for the transition to a new product line. Ford, in turn, will make a substantial new investment in the Claycomo facility. Details of the package are being finalized.



Ford's Claycomo operation employs nearly 6,000 workers with an annual payroll of more than \$400 million, and builds the Ford F-150 pickup as well as the Tribute and Escape SUV models. Ford has had an assembly plant in Kansas City since 1912.

Holden hosts Prince Andrew in St. Louis

Gov. Bob Holden welcomed and toured with His Royal Highness (HRH) The Duke of York (Prince Andrew) as he visited the St. Louis region October 22-23 as a part of a six-day visit to the United States, which included the states of Missouri, New Mexico and Pennsylvania.

HRH, who is the special representative for international trade and investment for the United Kingdom, was accompanied on his trade and investment tour here by Her Majesty's Consul General Andrew Seaton of Chicago and Sir Thomas Harris, the United Kingdom's Director General for Trade and Investment in the United States.

Representatives from 18 British companies concurrently visited the St. Louis region to learn more about trade and investment opportunities. The British business representatives joined in one-on-one meetings with Missouri companies aimed at building new business relationships between the Show-Me State and the United Kingdom. The companies also attended various seminars regarding advanced engineering.

During the visit, Gov. Holden, HRH and his official party toured GKN Aerospace Services and Enterprise Rent-A-Car; attended a Trade and Investment Luncheon hosted by the St. Louis RCGA; and were later joined by First Lady Lori Hauser Holden at a gala dinner and fundraising event hosted by the English Speaking Union (ESU). Proceeds from the event will help fund the ESU scholarship program.



Gov. Holden welcomes Prince Andrew and HM Consul General Andrew Seaton

HRH and his official party also met with value-added suppliers at the Boeing Leadership Center and toured the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Holden announces training funds for DaimlerChrysler, Boeing workers

In October, Gov. Bob Holden announced that DaimlerChrysler's St. Louis Assembly Plant, located in Fenton, will receive \$1.2 million to help train 2,450 workers through the state's Customized Training Program. The training funds are based on a new investment of \$27 million by DaimlerChrysler at its North and South Assembly Plants.

Training through the Customized Training Program will be administered locally by the St. Louis Community College's Center for Business, Industry and Labor at the Fenton assembly plants. The funds will be used to support jobs that pay an average of \$25 an hour.

Holden also recently announced that The Boeing Company will receive \$400,000 in Customized Training Program funds to help train 2,000 workers in teaming and skills trades. Training will be administered on site by the St. Louis Community College's Center for Business, Industry and Labor.

Workforce Investment Board receives federal grant *continued*

services in rural areas.

Specifically, the grant will pay for: fellowship training opportunities for medical students training to become psychiatrists at the University of Missouri-Columbia, education and clinical training for nurses with bachelor's degrees who wish to obtain master's degrees, about 30 clinical sites in rural communities where interns and residents will receive their clinical training, and a structured training course of general psychiatry training for medical professionals.

Workers and businesses interested in learning more about the benefits available through the federal grants should call DWD at 1-800-877-8698.

NEWSBRIEFS

State assists start up in Vernon Co.

A state loan will facilitate the start up of a wood plastic composite manufacturer in Nevada, in Vernon County. The new company will invest more than \$900,000 and create 34 new jobs as it locates a facility in Nevada.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) has approved a request from Vernon County on behalf of Green Forest Engineered Products, L.L.C. for a \$240,000 Action Fund Loan. The loan is made through the Community Development Block Grant program and will be used for working capital.

The new company will manufacture engineered wood products using a wood plastic composite extrusion process. The products will be used in the construction, infrastructure development, transportation equipment and industrial/consumer industries.

IndyMac Bank to locate in KC metro

State tax credits will aid in the imminent location of a leading technology-based mortgage lender to Missouri. IndyMac Bank, one of the largest savings and loan operations in the nation, has announced plans to invest nearly \$7.5 million to purchase and equip a facility and create 200 new jobs in the Kansas City metro area.

DED approved up to \$500,000 in Development Tax Credits in September for the Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City to offset a \$1 million donation, the not-for-profit agency will receive from IndyMac Bank. The donation, which will be made in the form of furniture and equipment, will be leased back to the company for the next five years.

IndyMac Bancorp, Inc. is the holding company for IndyMac Bank, a leading technology-based mortgage lender with its award-winning e-MITS platform to facilitate automated underwriting, risk-based pricing and rate lock of home loans on a nationwide basis via the Internet. IndyMac provides mortgage products and services through its business relationship division, IndyMac Mortgage

Bank, and its consumer direct division, IndyMac Consumer Bank

State tax credits aid Springfield company expand, create jobs

The Missouri Department of Economic Development has approved \$150,000 in development tax credits that will assist in the expansion of Tuthill Corporation in Springfield. The expansion includes the relocation of product lines from the company's Canton, Mass. location and will retain 155 jobs, create 78 new jobs and lead to \$16 million investment.

The tax credits, as requested by the Springfield Business and Development Corporation, will help offset a donation made to Tuthill, and will leverage the company's expansion. The donation was made in the form of equipment, which will be leased back to Tuthill to equip the new location.

The Tuthill Corporation manufactures pneumatic blowers, vacuum boosters and blower systems for the pharmaceutical, petrochemical and food processing industries. The company has more than 20 locations worldwide.

DED approves enterprise zone designation for parts of Wright Co.

In October, the Missouri Department of Economic Development approved portions of Wright County as an enterprise zone. The boundaries of the zone include all or part of the cities of Hartville, Norwood, Mansfield and Mountain Grove.

The designation was made possible by the passage of Senate Bill 856 during the 2002 legislative session, which gave Wright County the authority to seek enterprise zone designation with the Department of Economic Development.

The Wright County Industrial Development Authority has the local responsibility for marketing the enterprise zone. In addition, they will assist DED in determining if an eligible business is located within the geographic boundaries of the enterprise zone.

Eligible businesses that locate in an enterprise zone may earn state tax credits

for up to 10 years based on the number of new jobs and new investment created at the qualifying facility.

Dial to upgrade St. Louis Facility

State tax credits will aid in the retention and upgrading of the Dial Corporation's downtown St. Louis facility. The company has announced plans to invest nearly \$6 million to upgrade the facility and will retain nearly 300 jobs as a result.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development approved up to \$166,000 in Development Tax Credits for the St. Louis Development Corporation to offset a \$332,000 donation, the not-for-profit agency will receive from Dial. The donation, which will be made in the form of equipment, will be leased back to the company for the next five years.

In addition to the Development Tax Credits, the department's Division of Workforce Development approved up to \$34,500 in state job training funds for the company in August.

The Dial Corporation, based in Scottsdale, Ariz., is one of America's leading manufacturers of consumer products, including Dial soaps; Purex laundry detergents, which are produced at the St. Louis facility; Renuzit air fresheners; and Armour Star canned meats.

Farmington Lumber Co. expands

Botkin Lumber Company, based in Farmington, will soon be expanding its operation to create about 20 new jobs and \$500,000 in investment, thanks in part to a state grant.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development has awarded a \$154,260 Industrial Infrastructure Grant through the Community Development Block Grant program to the city of Farmington. The grant will be used to widen streets near the business so that they can withstand additional traffic volume caused by the business expansion.

Botkin was formed in Farmington in the 1950s as a sawmill. The company currently manufactures and assembles

Continued on next page

NEWSBRIEFS

industrial products made from Southern yellow pine, primarily cut stock lumber. Botkin also has facilities in Cape Girardeau and Illinois.

State Loans Aid Business Developments in Saline County

The Missouri Department of Economic Development recently approved loans through its Community Development Block Grant Program to facilitate new investments and new jobs by two manufacturing companies in Sweet Springs.

DED approved a request from Saline

County on behalf of Eastman House, Inc. for a \$350,000 Action Fund Loan. The loan will be used for working capital.

Eastman House is a manufacturer of handcrafted quality mattresses. The company currently manufactures products such as "The Renaissance Latex Foam Collection," "Encased Innerspring Collection" and the "Chiropractor's Care" mattress lines. Eastman House will invest more than \$2 million to move its operations from Burlington, Iowa and will create 61 new jobs.

DED also approved a request from Saline County on behalf of K & K Trail-

ers for a \$150,000 Action Fund Loan. This loan will also be used for working capital as the utility and livestock trailer manufacturer expands its operations just east of Sweet Springs and creates nine new jobs.

In addition to the state loan, the company will also receive assistance from Concordia Bank for this expansion. The project entails construction of a 40' X 72' manufacturing facility and a paint booth so that workers can paint trailers on site rather than outsourcing this job. The new facility will enable K & K Trailers to expand from individual sales to sales to dealerships.

John Coffman appointed Public Counsel

Missouri Department of Economic Development Director Joseph L. Driskill recently announced the appointment of John Coffman of Columbia, as Public Counsel to represent consumers of public utilities before the Missouri Public Service Commission and the courts.



Coffman has been acting public counsel since January 1, 2002, following the retirement of Martha Hogerty. Prior to that he had been deputy public counsel for two and a

half years and has been with the office for almost 14 years.

Coffman serves on Governor Holden's Missouri Energy Policy Council, which advises the Governor on a wide variety of energy issues; is chair of the Missouri Universal Service Board, which is responsible for managing that fund for telecommunications customers; and serves as secretary for the Committee to Keep Missourians Warm, an organization of utility companies and advocates who work together to assist low families with heating bills.

At the national level, Coffman was chosen this year to serve on the executive committee of the National Association of State Utility Advocates. From 1994-97 he served as chair of the association's Water Committee.

Coffman has participated in complex litigation involving electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer companies.

Last April he completed his second term on the Columbia City Council and is active in a number of civic organizations. He has a law degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The Office of Public Counsel has a staff of 14 and is part of the Missouri Department of Economic Development.

Smith Elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of NASCUS

John P. Smith, director of the Missouri Division of Credit Unions was elected vice-chair/chair-elect of the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors (NASCUS) on Sept. 8 at the organization's 38th annual meeting.



Since 1999, Smith has directed the Missouri Division of Credit Unions. The division, which is a regulatory agency under the Missouri Department of Economic Development, supervises the 162 Missouri chartered credit unions with deposits of over \$7.2 billion. Savings in Missouri's credit unions are federally insured.

Founded in 1965, NASCUS represents all 48 state and territorial credit union supervisors and 800 of the nation's more than 4,300 state-chartered credit unions. The mission of NASCUS is to enhance state credit union supervision and advocate a safe and sound state credit union system.

MISSOURI ENTERPRISE

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